



# WASHINGTON POTATOES

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250  
Washington Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507  
Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/)



Released on May 16, 2006

Contact: Chris Messer (360)902-1940  
[nass-wa@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-wa@nass.usda.gov)

## PROCESSING POTATOES

Processors in Washington and Oregon (excluding Malheur County) used 61,855 thousand cwt. of raw potatoes to May 1, 2006, 2,000 thousand cwt. less than the 63,855 thousand cwt. processed during the same period last year, and 2,305 thousand cwt. less than the 64,160 thousand cwt. processed during the same time frame two years ago. Processing to May 1, 2006 in Washington and Oregon (excluding Malheur County) accounted for 53.4 percent of the 2005 production. Dehydrating usage in the nine processing states, excluding starch and flour, accounted for 30,825 thousand cwt. of raw potatoes.

### POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, NINE STATES, 2004 & 2005 1/

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO OCT 1	TO NOV 1	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	TO MAY 1	TO JUN 1	ENTIRE SEASON
1,000 Cwt											
Idaho & Malheur Co., Ore.	2004-05	10,470	17,390	24,360	30,840	36,820	44,610	51,000	58,090	65,800	84,600
	2005-06	8,370	15,740	22,590	28,960	35,570	42,800	50,220	57,120	-	-
Maine 2/	2004-05	-	-	1,540	1,970	2,600	3,135	3,700	4,340	4,910	6,590
	2005-06	-	-	1,290	1,805	2,405	3,015	3,740	4,400	-	-
Wash. & Other Area, Ore.	2004-05	17,970	24,990	32,305	38,130	43,570	50,730	57,140	63,855	71,355	78,680
	2005-06	16,620	23,645	30,310	35,895	40,545	48,290	55,320	61,855	-	-
Other States 3/	2004-05	-	-	12,490	15,000	17,965	20,910	24,150	27,480	30,945	41,175
	2005-06 4/	-	-	11,820	15,030	17,980	21,230	24,080	26,990	-	-
TOTAL NINE STATES	2004-05	-	-	70,695	85,940	100,955	119,385	135,990	153,765	173,010	211,045
	2005-06 4/	-	-	66,010	81,690	96,500	115,335	133,360	150,365	-	-
Dehydrated 5/	2004-05	-	-	14,525	18,540	21,875	25,970	30,020	33,685	38,505	47,805
	2005-06 4/	-	-	12,180	15,920	19,515	23,210	27,205	30,825	-	-

- No monthly data available.

1/ Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, and WI.

2/ Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

3/ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI.

4/ April revised.

5/ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. Includes CO, ID, NV, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

## POTATO STOCKS

Potatoes stored in Washington on May 1, 2006 were estimated at 17,000 thousand cwt., 1,500 thousand cwt. more than the 15,500 thousand cwt. in storage on May 1, 2005, and 2,000 thousand cwt. less than the 15,000 thousand cwt. in storage on May 1, 2004. Disappearance of the State's crop to date was 78,480 thousand cwt. compared with 78,310 thousand cwt. a year ago.

Chris Messer  
State Director

Linda Simpson  
Statistician

## MAY POTATO STOCKS DOWN 17 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

The 13 major potato States held 73.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2006, down 17 percent from last year and 14 percent below May 1, 2005, for comparable States. Potatoes in storage account for 20 percent of the 2005 fall storage States' production, down 2 percentage points from last year. Ohio and Pennsylvania were dropped from the potato stocks program starting with the 2005 storage season.

Comparisons by region will not be made in this narrative to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Comparisons for individual States are as follows. Idaho's potato stocks are down 22 percent from last year, while Maine's sheds held 8 percent less than last year, and Colorado's stocks dropped 28 percent from last season. Stocks in Wisconsin decreased 3 percent from 2005. North Dakota's potato stocks dropped 61 percent from last year, while Minnesota's stocks are 47 percent below last year, and California's potato sheds held 20 percent less than in 2005. Montana, Nebraska, and New York's potato stocks combined decreased 18 percent from last year. Michigan potato stocks are unchanged from the same date in 2005. Washington and Oregon are the only States where potato stocks have increased from the same date in 2005, with stocks up 10 percent and 28 percent, respectively.

## FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION & STOCKS 2000-2005 WASHINGTON & 15 FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS						
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR					
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUN 1
WASHINGTON	1,000 Cwt.							
2000	105,000	59,000	52,000	44,500	37,500	29,500	21,500	13,000
2001	94,400	53,000	46,000	40,000	32,500	25,000	18,000	10,000
2002	92,340	50,000	43,500	38,500	30,500	23,000	16,500	9,000
2003	93,150	51,000	44,000	38,000	29,500	21,500	15,000	7,000
2004	93,810	50,000	43,000	36,500	29,000	22,000	15,500	8,000
2005	95,480	52,000	46,000	40,000	32,000	24,500	17,000	-
15 STATES 1/								
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003	403,181	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004	403,587	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005 2/	372,581	251,800	218,900	187,600	153,700	113,900	72,950	-

1/ See table below for listing of 15 states. 2/ Thirteen major states.

## PRODUCTION and TOTAL STOCKS of FALL POTATOES HELD by GROWERS, PROCESSORS and LOCAL DEALERS on MAY 1, 2005 & MAY 1, 2006 1/

STATE	CROP OF 2004			CROP OF 2005		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MAY 1, 2005 2/	MAY 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MAY 1, 2006 2/	MAY 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	<b>1,000 Cwt.</b>		<b>Percent</b>	<b>1,000 Cwt.</b>		<b>Percent</b>
California	3,648	500	14	3,240	400	12
Colorado	23,791	6,000	25	22,292	4,300	19
Idaho	131,970	38,500	29	116,975	30,000	26
Maine	19,065	5,000	26	15,736	4,600	29
Michigan	13,650	900	7	13,920	900	6
Minnesota	18,920	5,100	27	17,630	2,700	15
Montana	3,551	500	14	3,434		
Nebraska	9,288			8,245	1,200	15
New York	5,184			5,226		
N. Dakota	26,765	7,200	27	20,500	2,800	14
Ohio 3/	1,080					
Oregon	19,775	3,900	20	22,023	5,000	23
Pennsylvania 3/	2,640					
Washington	93,810	15,500	17	95,480	17,000	18
Wisconsin	30,450	3,800	12	27,880	3,700	13
Other States		1,650			350	
15 STATES TOTAL 4/	403,587	88,550	22	372,581	72,950	20

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2005 totaled 24.7 million cwt.

2/ Missing stocks combined into "Other States".

3/ Stock estimates discontinued for the 2005 crop.

4/ Thirteen states for the 2005 crop.